

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 382B
NATIONAL CHINNERY DISCLOSURE ACT
DRAFT 1000

WD

IMMEDIATE TO [] Please [] INFO DCD/HEADQUARTERS
RIBAT [] : []
WN INTEL CKTOP []

1. HEADQUARTERS NEEDS TO DETERMINE ASAP THE CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF NIKOLAJS BALODIS, DOB 25 JUNE 1916 IN LATVIA. BALODIS WAS RECRUITED BY AGENCY IN GERMANY IN 1951, TRAINED AND SENT INTO LATVIA IN 1952, WHERE HE APPARENTLY WAS APPREHENDED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY. IN 1956 THE SOVIETS PUBLICIZED HIS ARREST AS AN AMERICAN AGENT. AT THE TIME OF HIS RECRUITMENT BALODIS HAD A COMMON-LAW WIFE AND SON IN GERMANY AND WHEN THE WOMAN DIED IN 1958, THE AGENCY HIRED A LAWYER TO ARRANGE FOR THE SON TO IMMIGRATE TO THE UNITED STATES AND BE ADOPTED BY BALODIS' SISTER. THE LAWYER DID NOT DISCLOSE THE FACT THAT HE WAS REPRESENTING THE AGENCY OR THE USG IN HIS DEALINGS WITH THE FAMILY.
2. THE SISTER, ASTRALIDA LIDACIS, BORN 1915, IS THE WIFE OF ARVIDS LIDACIS WHO, IN 1960, was IN THE CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS IN HUNTINGTON, N.Y. WE HAVE DETERMINED THAT ONE OR TWO YEARS AGO THE FAMILY MOVED TO 3062 WOODS DRIVE, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO 45506.
3. REQUEST INTERVIEWER CONTACT MRS. LIDACIS AND EXPLAIN THAT USG IS CURRENTLY TRYING TO DETERMINE THE STATUS OF PAST AND CURRENT POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE USSR WHO HAVE/HAD SOME FAMILY TIE TO THE UNITED STATES, AND THAT HER BROTHER IS ONE OF THEM. MRS. LIDACIS SHOULD BE ASKED IF SHE HAS ANY KNOWLEDGE OF HIS FATE OR OF HIS CURRENT WHEREABOUTS. NO MENTION OF THE ADOPTED SON SHOULD BE MADE IN THE INTERVIEW. FYI, HIS NAME WAS OJARS KONTALIS, DOB 7 OCTOBER 1950.
4. REQUEST REPLY BY COB 13 JULY, IF POSSIBLE. ~~TOP~~ FYI ONLY, HIGHEST LEVELS OF USG CURRENTLY DISCUSSING VARIOUS OPTIONS FOR DEALING WITH THE SOVIETS, INCLUDING POSSIBLE PRISONER EXCHANGES. BALODIS'S NAME CAME UP IN THIS REGARD.
5. FILE: DCD/OSG CASE 69834 (NEW). E2 IMPDET.